

In re: Morrow et al.
Appl. No.: 09/989,289
Filed: November 20, 2001
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REMARKS

The above amendments are made to more clearly define the invention under United States practice. It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew T. Meunier
Registration No. 40,726

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2809

MAY 20 2002

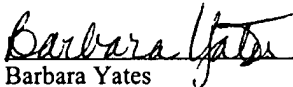
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CUSTOMER NO. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Atlanta Office (404) 881-7000
Fax Atlanta Office (404) 881-7777



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on May 6, 2002.


Barbara Yates

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made:

1. (Amended) A toneable conduit, comprising:

an elongate polymeric tube having a wall with an interior surface, an exterior surface, and a predetermined wall thickness; a channel extending longitudinally within the wall of the elongate polymeric tube; and a stabilizing rib extending longitudinally along the interior surface of the wall of the elongate polymeric tube and located radially inward from said channel; and

a continuous, high elongation wire coincident with the channel in the elongate polymeric tube, said [copper-clad steel] wire coated with a coating composition that prevents the wire from adhering to the polymer melt used to form the polymeric tube;

said high elongation wire capable of transmitting a toning signal to allow the conduit to be detected by toning equipment and capable of being torn out of the polymeric tube to allow the conduit and wire to be coupled.

30. (Amended) A method of coupling a first toneable conduit with a second toneable conduit, comprising the steps of:

providing a first toneable conduit comprising an elongate polymeric tube having a wall with an interior surface, an exterior surface, and a predetermined wall thickness; a channel extending longitudinally within the wall of the elongate polymeric tube; and a stabilizing rib extending longitudinally along the interior surface of the wall of the elongate polymeric tube and located radially inward from said channel; and a continuous, [coated] high elongation wire coincident with the channel in the elongate polymeric tube, said wire coated with a coating composition that prevents the wire from adhering to the polymer melt used to form the polymeric tube;

providing a second toneable conduit comprising an elongate polymeric tube having a wall with an interior surface, an exterior surface, and a predetermined wall thickness; a channel extending longitudinally within the wall of the elongate polymeric tube; and a stabilizing rib extending longitudinally along the interior surface of the wall of the elongate polymeric tube and located radially inward from said channel; and a continuous, [coated] high elongation wire

coincident with the channel in the elongate polymeric tube, said wire coated with a coating composition that prevents the wire from adhering to the polymer melt used to form the polymeric tube;

tearing the high elongation wire of the first toneable conduit through the exterior surface of the first toneable conduit;

tearing the high elongation wire of the second toneable conduit through the exterior surface of the second toneable conduit;

mechanically connecting the first conduit and the second conduit; and

electrically connecting the high elongation wire from the first toneable conduit and the high elongation wire from the [first] second toneable conduit.

34. (Amended) The method according to Claim 30, [wherein] said providing steps compris[e]ng providing a first toneable conduit and a second toneable conduit wherein the elongate polymeric tube of the first toneable conduit and the second toneable conduit is formed of high density polyethylene.